



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Maryland's Social Services Agency



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release:

May 26, 2009

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**DHR SECRETARY BRENDA DONALD AND FREDERICK COUNTY
DIRECTOR TO SWITCH JOBS FOR A DAY**

FREDERICK and BALTIMORE -- Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) Secretary Brenda Donald will visit and spend a full day at the Frederick County Department of Social Services (FCDSS) on Thursday, May 28, 2009. Donald will be the director of FCDSS for the day and Diane Gordy will be DHR Secretary for the day.

Late last year, Donald offered a fundraising challenge to the state's 24 local social services department directors: be the local department to raise the highest percentage of money over your goal for the Maryland Charities Campaign and you can have my job for a day.

Employees at FCDSS contributed nearly \$7,000 and other Frederick County employees contributed another \$2,400. Frederick County exceeded their original fundraising goal by the highest percentage of any other local department of social services in the state.

Donald will begin her day at the Frederick Board of County Commissioners where she will participate in the regular meeting the Commissioners have with department heads.

During her visit, Donald will conduct an all-staff meeting at FCDSS to thank employees for generously contributing to the 2008 Maryland Charity Campaign. She will also spend significant time with staff in various areas of FCDSS including family investment, social services and child support enforcement.

Gordy will attend Governor Martin O'Malley's Children's Cabinet meeting and will also be a part of the Labor Management meeting in Baltimore that day.

"I'm looking forward to hearing from staff, meeting the people of Frederick and getting an up-close look at the successes and challenges that Frederick is experiencing in the realm of social services," said Donald.

"The switch gives our staff a unique chance to share their daily routine with Secretary Donald and will help her better understand the tremendous effort staff puts forth on a daily basis to serve the citizens of Frederick County," said Gordy.

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• Martin O'Malley, Governor

• Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

• Brenda Donald, Secretary